

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-11 OIC-02 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DPW-01 ORM-02 AID-05 /080 W

----- 092587

R 071323Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4416

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 3501

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAS HR CO

SUBJ: GOC PROPOSAL OF RECIPROCITY IN IA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
ELECTION

REF: STATE 059223

1. EMBASSY DELIVERED DIPLOMATIC NOTE NO. 279 (POUCHED TO ARA/NC) ON MARCH 31, WHICH INFORMED FONOFF OF U.S. NOMINATION OF TOM J. FARER FOR ELECTION TO INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC) AND REQUESTED GOC SUPPORT FOR HIS ELECTION. IN FOLLOW UP CONVERSATIONS ON APRIL 2 AND APRIL 5, ALVARO BONILLA, ACTING HEAD OF FONOFF OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES, TOLD POL COUNSELOR THAT MR. FARER WAS AN EXCELLENT NOMINEE AND THAT THE GOC WOULD BE PLEASED TO SUPPORT HIS CANDIDACY IN RETURN FOR U.S. SUPPORT FOR A COLOMBIAN CANDIDATE FOR THE IAHRC, AMBASADOR JOSE JOAQUIN GORI. BONILLA SAID A NOTE CONTAINING THIS REQUEST WAS IN PREPARATION AND WOULD BE SENT TO THE EMBASSY IN DUR COURSE.

2. THE EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THYJ THE U.S. SUPPORT THE COLOMBIAN CANDIDACY. AS ONE OF THE TWO REMAINING DEMOCRACIES IN SOUTH AMERICA AND WITH A HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD SECOND TO NONE IN LATIN AMERICA, COLOMBIA IS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL QUALIFIED FOR REPRESENTATION ON THE IAHRC. U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE COLOMBIAN CANDIDATE WOULD PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF THE U.S. PREFERENCE FOR DEMO-
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CRATIC GOVERNMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AS WELL AS OF SENSITIVITY TO

THE NEED THAT THE IAHRC BE COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTRIES WHICH THEMSELVES GUARANTEE HUMAN RIGHTS. ALSO, U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE COLOMBIAN CANDIDATE WOULD BE RECOGNIZED AND APPRECIATED BY THE GOC AS A FRIENDLY GESTURE BY THE U.S.

3. AMBASSADOR GORI, 69, IS FAVORABLY AND WELL KNOWN BY U.S. EMBASSY OFFICERS. A MEMBER OF THE COLOMBIAN FOREIGN SERVICE SINCE 1933, HE HAS HAD A LONG AND VARIED CAREER AND HAS SERVED AS AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA AND URUGUAY. HE IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S POLICY PLANNING DEPARTMENT. GORI HAS CONSISTENTLY BEEN FRIENDLY TOWARD THE U.S. AND HAS GENERALLY SUPPORTED U.S. POLICIES IN THE UN AND THE OAS.

4. EMBASSY WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT TELEGRAPHICALLY UPON RECEIPT OF GOC NOTE REQUESTING RECIPROCITY.

VAKY

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Message Attributes

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